March 7, 2022

Dear PTS Community,

This is a shehecheyanu moment. Thank you to God, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.

As a result of the improving COVID situation, the CDC and local health authorities recently announced rollbacks of mask mandates and other risk mitigations. Our PTS COVID Task Force met to discuss the implications for our community, and we are taking some immediate action, effective March 11, to loosen restrictions while balancing that with common sense regarding safety for all.

You can view our updated COVID guidelines on our website. Highlights are below.

General worship and programs
Proof of vaccination, including booster shots, continues to be required to participate in indoor programming. Masks are optional with the following caveat. To be mask free on the bimah for special activities, such as b’nai mitzvah, congregational choirs, or other groups called to the bimah, participants must have negative antigen tests. Outdoors, masks continue to be optional.

Those who are unable to be vaccinated, such as young children or those who are medically exempt, must continue to wear masks.

Youth education and youth programming
Youth Education on Sundays will continue to take place outdoors for the remainder of the school year; outdoors, masks are optional. Indoors, masks will continue to be required. Please see communications from Director of Education, Rabbi Liora Alban, for details.

Preschool
Please see communications from Director of Early Childhood Education Allison Steckley for the most up-to-date information on preschool Covid protocols. Preschool COVID policies may differ from other PTS programs due to the special needs of that community.

Food
Dining and food service restrictions are lifted.

We continue to recommend meeting outdoors when appropriate, keeping doors open if inside, and maintaining an environment where distancing is possible.

Even as we each make our own decisions about participation, masking, and distancing, we ask you to be respectful of decisions made by others. Each of us is on our own journey and we are all in this together. I do hope that you will take this opportunity to deepen your connections to your PTS community, whether it be virtual or in person.

My very best,
Karen Wisialowski
Chief Community Officer